

city *Visions*

A Monthly Publication Of
The City of Morgan Hill November 2000



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DURING THE HOLIDAYS

Don't Be A Holiday Crime Target

THIS HOLIDAY season, don't let the spirit of giving lull you into giving burglars, muggers, and pickpockets a better chance to do their holiday magic by making your property disappear. Here are some tips on how to celebrate safely this holiday season:

IF YOU'RE TRAVELING

- Use automatic timers for lights; give the illusion that someone is home.
- Ask a neighbor to watch your home and park in your driveway from time to time.
- Have the newspaper and mail stopped or picked up by a neighbor.

IF YOU'RE OUT FOR THE EVENING

- Turn on the lights and a radio or TV so it looks like someone is home.
- Be extra cautious about locking doors and windows when you leave - even if it's just for a few minutes.
- Don't display gifts where they can be seen from outside the house.

• SEE "TARGET" PAGE 3

Drive Smart During The Holidays

THE ANNUAL "Avoid the 13" campaign will be kicked off on December 15, 2000. The "Avoid the 13" program is a combined effort of all law enforcement agencies in Santa Clara County. A companion program, San Mateo County (Avoid the 23), exists in San Mateo County. The program has also expanded to Alameda and other Bay Area counties. Together, the law enforcement agencies in these two counties join forces to keep the streets and highways safe from drunk drivers. The "Avoid the 13" campaign will conclude on January 2, 2001.

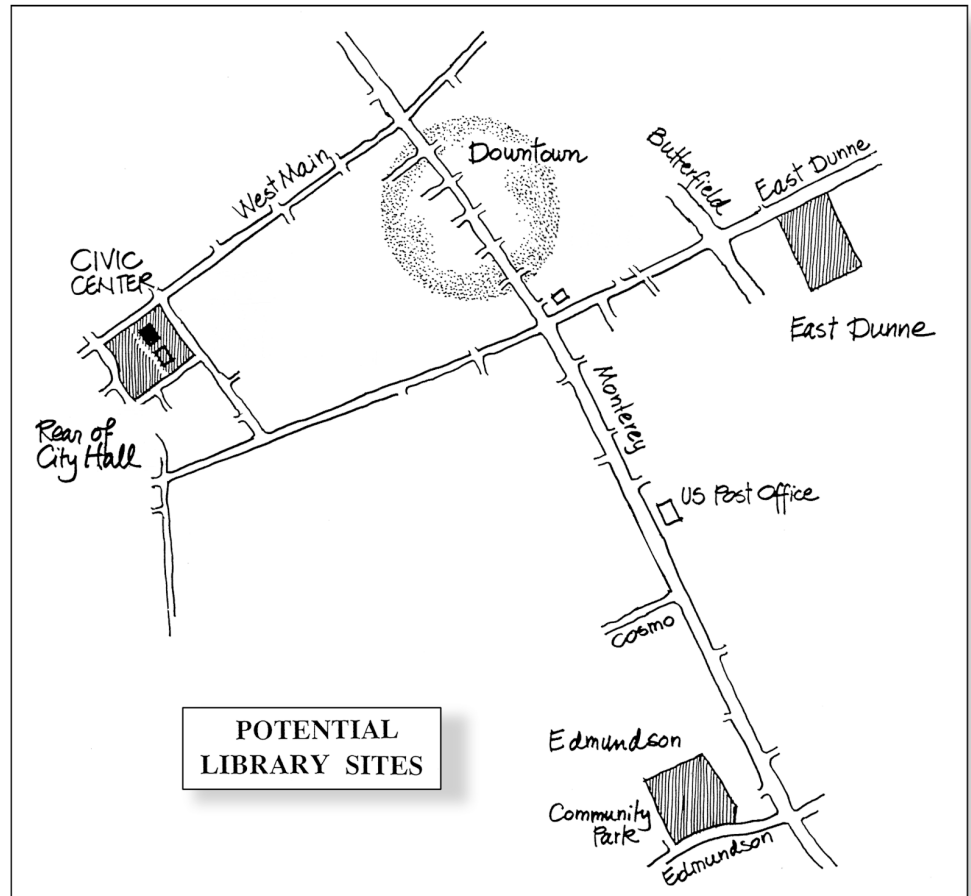
The program uses public service announcements and media releases to heighten the community's awareness of the hazards of drinking and driving. It also establishes high profile enforcement teams to keep drunk drivers off the street. Participating agencies, including Morgan Hill, will conduct DUI checkpoints

• SEE "SMART" PAGE 2

Library Site Selection Awaits Master Plan Study Results

THE REDEVELOPMENT Agency recently accepted the Library Site Selection Study for the Morgan Hill Public Library. This study recommended the top three sites (Edmundson, East Dunne, and Civic Center) for further consideration. Before making a final site selection for the library, the Redevelopment Agency Board is waiting to receive the new Parks and Recreation Master Plan Study and to receive additional site acquisition and development cost information for each of the three sites. A final decision is expected by December 6, 2000. 🏠

• ARTICLE BY JOYCE MASKELL, BUSINESS ASSISTANCE AND HOUSING MANAGER, 776-7373 OR MASKELLJ@CH.MORGAN-HILL.CA.GOV



• "SMART" FROM PAGE 1

during the campaign. The Morgan Hill Police Department has two checkpoints planned for the campaign, one on December 15th and another on December 28th. In addition, the Police Department will be fielding extra officers during the campaign to stop the drinking driver.

The "Avoid the 13" campaign has been effective in saving lives and reducing traffic related injuries caused by the drinking driver. Our ultimate goal is to put officers out in the field that can not find a single person driving under the influence. So for everyone's sake, we ask our community to DRIVE SAFE and DRIVE SMART, and not drink and drive. 🏠

• ARTICLE BY CAPTAIN CAREY SULLIVAN, 776-7315

Help Local Residents In Need This Holiday Season

IN PARTNERSHIP with Community Solutions, the City of Morgan Hill is pleased to once again participate in the Giving Tree project. During the holiday season, the City decorates a tree with the names of residents in need with whom you can share your holiday spirit of giving.

The City Hall tree will be lit on Monday, November 27th. All donations of gifts and nonperishable food items should be delivered to City Hall by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 13th in order for Community Solutions to deliver the "Love Baskets" in time for the holidays. 🏠

• ARTICLE BY KAREN LENGFIELD, COORDINATOR OF VOLUNTEER SERVICES, 779-7278.



Local Digest

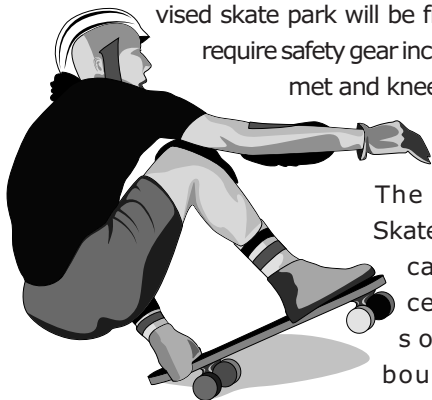
Skate Park Rolls On

Ground is broken and construction is underway on the interim skate park.

The project, which should open in late November, includes grading, asphalt paving, fencing, curb and gutter work, drinking fountain, and access driveway.

Phase two includes the portable skate elements which will be installed once the asphalt is complete. The elements will accommodate beginner to intermediate skill levels. The unsuper-

vised skate park will be free and will require safety gear including a helmet and knee and elbow pads.



The Interim Skate Park is located adjacent to the southern boundary of the Caltrain/VTA

Park and Ride lot on Butterfield Blvd. For updated information contact the Recreation Division at 779-7271. 📞

Midnight Madness Results

The last day to register to vote for the upcoming November 7, 2000 General Election was October 10, 2000.

The City Clerk's Office teamed up with the County Registrar of Voters to assist individuals who had not yet had the opportunity to register to vote by keeping City Hall offices open on October 10 from 5:00 PM to midnight. The extended office hours resulted in 220 individuals registering to vote. Individuals came from as far north as San Jose and as far south as Hollister. The flow of citizens was constant with the last customer arriving at 11:59 PM. Many citizens also took advantage of City Hall being open late by taking home information regarding city services. 📞

• "TARGET" FROM PAGE 1

IF YOU'RE SHOPPING

- Stay alert and be aware of what's going on around you.
- Park in a well-lit space and be sure to **lock** the car, close the windows, and hide shopping bags and gifts in the trunk.
- Avoid carrying cash by paying with check or credit card.
- Deter pickpockets and purse snatchers. Don't overburden yourself with packages. Be extra careful with purses and wallets.
- Teach your children to go to a store clerk or security guard if they get separated.

IF A STRANGER COMES TO THE DOOR, BEWARE

Criminals sometimes pose as couriers delivering gifts. It's not uncommon for people to try to take advantage of others' generosity during the holidays by going door-to-door for charitable donations when there's no charity involved. Don't be afraid to ask for identification. All solicitors must obtain a permit from the City and should carry some sort of identification. If there is a doubt, please call the Morgan Hill Police Department. Ask what the funds will be used for. If you are not satisfied, don't give. Help a charitable organization you know and like instead.

TAKE A HOLIDAY INVENTORY

The holidays are a good time to update or create your home inventory. Take photos or make videos of items, and list descriptions and serial numbers. If your home is burglarized, having a detailed inventory can help identify stolen items and make insurance claims easier to file. Make sure things like TV's, VCR's, stereo equipment, cameras, camcorders, sports equipment, jewelry, silver, computers, home office equipment, and power tools are on the list.

IF YOU ARE VICTIMIZED

Notify all creditors and banks immediately if your cards and checks have been stolen. If you are like most people you carry your Social Security card in your wallet or purse. If your Social Security card is stolen it is important for you to call one of these numbers Equifax 1-800-525-6285 • Experian 1-888-397-3742 • Trans Union 1-800-680-7289.

For more information on home and neighborhood security contact the Morgan Hill Police Crime Prevention at 776-7310. Have a safe and happy holiday season. 📞

• ARTICLE BY DEBBIE SIMON, CRIME PREVENTION OFFICER,
776-7310 OR DEBBIES@PD.MORGAN-HILL.CA.GOV





COMMUNITY Event CALENDAR

BLOOD DRIVE, DECEMBER 10

Give the gift of life at the Red Cross Blood Drive at City Hall on December 10. Call 779-7271 for blood drive hours and an appointment.

GARBAGE SERVICE

Garbage and recycling services will be on a normal schedule during Thanksgiving week. Just as in the past, there will NOT be collection services on Christmas and New Year's Day. For both of these weeks, service will be delayed by one day for all customers. In other words, if your normal collection day is Wednesday, it will be on Thursday for these two weeks. Friday customers will receive service on Saturday. For more information, please contact South Valley Disposal & Recycling at 408-842-3358.

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING

Place your Christmas tree next to your garbage can for collection on your service day during the weeks of December 25 through January 8th. Cut trees into sections no larger than three feet by three feet. Remove all decorations including tinsel. Flocked trees cannot be recycled! Please consider buying a green tree this year. If you insist on purchasing a flocked tree, it must be put in your trash can. After January 8, trees must be prepared as standard yard waste including bundling. Call South Valley Disposal & Recycling at 408-842-3358 for more details.

CITY OFFICES CLOSED NOVEMBER 23 - 24

City offices will be closed in observance of Thanksgiving. We thank YOU for your support and interest in your community.

CITY OFFICES CLOSED DECEMBER 25 - JANUARY 1

City Offices will be closed in observance of the Christmas and New Year's holidays. We wish you a joyful and safe holiday season. All city offices will reopen on January 2.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



City Elected Officials

Mayor <i>Dennis Kennedy</i>	779-7259
Mayor Pro Tempore <i>Steve Tate</i>	779-6992
Councilmember <i>Hedy L. Chang</i>	778-0511
Councilmember <i>Cynthia J. Cook</i>	683-2448
Councilmember <i>Greg Sellers</i>	778-2370
City Clerk <i>Irma Torrez</i>	779-7259
City Treasurer <i>Michael Roorda</i>	778-3653



City Department Heads

City Manager <i>J. Edward Tewes</i>
City Attorney <i>Helene L. Leichter</i>
Business Assistance/Housing Services Director <i>Garrett Toy</i>
Community Development Director <i>David Bischoff</i>
Council Services and Records Manager <i>Irma Torrez</i>
Finance Director <i>Jack Dilles</i>
Acting Human Resources Manager <i>Melissa Stevenson Dile</i>
Police Chief <i>Steve Schwab</i>
Public Works Director <i>Jim Ashcraft</i>



Contacting Your City

Hours: Monday - Friday, 8AM to 5PM
Address: 17555 Peak Avenue, Morgan Hill, CA 95037

Animal Control	776-7300
Building Inspection	779-7241
Business Assistance & Housing Services	776-7373
City Clerk	779-7259
City Manager	779-7271
Environmental Programs	779-7247
Finance	779-7237
Fire Department (County Fire)	378-4010
Job Hotline	779-7276
Planning: Land Use / Zoning	779-7247
Police Administration	776-7315
Public Works	776-7337
Recreation	779-7271
Water	779-7221
Volunteer Programs	779-7278

City Hall Fax Number 779-3117
City Website: <http://www.morgan-hill.ca.gov>



Contact The Editor

Questions or comments about City Visions are welcome. Contact Editor Anthony Eulo at 779-7247 or environ@ch.morgan-hill.ca.gov. City Visions is published monthly by the City of Morgan Hill.

